

A new species of Bidens (Asteraceae) from Brazil

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Field work in Brazil during 1974 with the entomologist, Dr. D. Otte of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, resulted in the discovery of the following species belonging to the Section Selvorngia. The section was previously thought to be monotypic with the single species B. graveolens Gard.

Bidens goiana Turner, Sp. nov. Fig. 1

Herbae erectae ad 1 m altae caulibus debilibus, B. graveolens valde similes sed foliis minoribus planissime ellipticis, capitulis floribusque minoribus, floribus perspicue flavis.

Erect weak-stemmed herb up to 1 m. tall. Much resembling B. graveolens but with smaller, more elliptic leaves, smaller heads and floral parts, and decidedly yellow flowers. Chromosome number, $n = 22$ pairs.

HOLOTYPE (LL): Brazil. Goias. 40 km ENE of Brasilia. In burned-over, short, open forests. Sandy sterile soils. 5 Feb. 1974. B. L. Turner 9125.

The species is found as a populational unit in the same region in which B. graveolens occurs. In addition to its smaller habit and more delicate, flexuous, inflorescence, B. goiana can be recognized by the dill-like smell of its crushed foliage and decidedly yellow flowers. The crushed foliage of B. graveolens has a lemon smell and the flowers are variously purplish- to brown-yellow.

The chromosome number of Bidens goiana is tetraploid on a base of $x = 11$, while B. graveolens is tetraploid on a base of $x = 12$ (Turner, et al., in press), although it is possible that tetraploid populations ancestral to the latter gave rise to B. goiana by aneuploid loss at the higher level.

I am grateful to M. C. Johnston for the Latin diagnosis. Supported, in part, by N. S. F. Grant 1013950.



Fig. 1. Habit sketch of Bidens goiana (X 1/2)